United Nations S/2005/147

Security Council

Distr.: General
8 March 2005
English
Original: French

Letter dated 4 March 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement concerning Togo, issued on 4 March 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a Security Council document.

(*Signed*) Jean-Marc **Hoscheit**
Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations

05-26280 (E) 100305 100305

Annex to the letter dated 4 March 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement concerning Togo issued on 4 March 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the resignation of Mr. Faure Gnassingbé on 25 February 2005, as part of a return to constitutional order. This move should pave the way for free and transparent presidential elections, to which the European Union stands ready to lend its assistance.

In this context, the European Union continues to support efforts made by ECOWAS and the African Union aimed at ensuring a successful transition and facilitating the holding of free and transparent elections. The European Union insists that human rights and civil liberties be respected and security guaranteed for everyone.

The European Union also insists that the undertakings made by the Government of Togo in the framework of the consultations held under article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement be honoured, in particular the holding of a national political dialogue making possible the setting up of an electoral framework acceptable to all parties for holding presidential and parliamentary elections.

The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia* and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the EFTA countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia continues to be part of the stabilization and association process.